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Application No. 10/618,615
Docket No. 740145-267REMARKS

In view of the Examiner's indication that claims 2, 4-7, 10, and 11 would be allowable if placed in independent form, claim 1 has been amended to constituted claim 4 rewritten in independent form and claim 2 has been amended to incorporated claim 1 so that it too is now in allowable independent form. With the exception of claim 12, all of the rejected claims now are dependent from allowable amended claim 1 (allowable claim 4) so that they too should now be allowable. As for claim 12, it has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 10 which was found to be patentable over the prior art so that claim 12 also should now be in condition for allowance.

While the present application is now believed to be in condition for allowance, should the Examiner find some issue to remain unresolved, or should any new issues arise, which could be eliminated through discussions with applicant's representative, then the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone in order that the further prosecution of this application can thereby be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

By: David S. Safran
Registration No. 27,997Roberts Mlotkowski & Hobbes P.C
8270 Greensboro Drive
Suite 850
McLean, VA 22102

Direct Telephone: (703) 584-3273

DSS:kmm